

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Akinobu Sato, et al.
Serial No.:	10/573,942
Filing Date:	March 29, 2006
Title:	Solid surface smoothing method and apparatus therefor
Conf. No.	5411

Examiner: Michael A. Band

Art Unit: 1795

October 18, 2010
Fremont, California

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR § 1.56, the Applicants respectfully disclose the following:

US patent application publication no. 2004/0086752; published May 6, 2004; Matsukawa et al.; filed Oct 24, 2003.

This publication was cited in an Office Action mailed March 10, 2010 for pending application no. 11/920,362 filed December 21, 2007 by Akinobu Sato et al.

This U.S. patent application claims priority of JP application no. 2001-192217 filed Jun 26, 2001. This Japanese application is also claimed for priority by JP patent application publication no. 2003-86865, published Mar 20, 2003, which was disclosed previously in an Information Disclosure Statement for this application submitted on Sep 6, 2007.

Payment of the \$180 fee required under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) and as set forth in §1.17(p) by charge to a credit card is being authorized concurrently with the submission of this disclosure.

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner initial the cited reference shown on the enclosed substitute form PTO-1449 and that the reference be made of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DL' or 'DN' with a stylized flourish.

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Enc. Substitute form PTO-1449